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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Plans Risk-Based Evaluations of Wolf Creek and Center Hill Dams

NASHVILLE, TENN. (November 6, 2006) - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District, has announced plans to conduct Risk-Based Evaluations of both Wolf Creek (Lake Cumberland) and Center Hill Dam. Both projects have been approved for rehabilitation which will address foundation seepage issues that threaten the long-term stability of both dams. Funding has been received to start the rehabilitation work on both dams and the work is currently underway at Wolf Creek Dam. Work is expected to begin at Center Hill Dam in early 2007.

Since the spring of 2005, the Corps has attempted to keep fall, winter and early spring lake levels from extreme rises. The seepage problems are made worse by continually high levels, therefore maintaining lower lake elevations slows the progression of the seepage while the repairs are being made.

The Corps recently contracted to perform Risk-Based Evaluations that will consider additional ways of operating the lakes to reduce risks to people and property. Among alternatives that will be considered include additional lake lowering, altering monitoring processes for the dams, and modifying emergency response procedures in an effort to reduce risks downstream of the dam. The evaluation of Wolf Creek is scheduled to begin later this year and should be completed in early 2007. The evaluation for Center Hill Dam is scheduled to be conducted after

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the Wolf Creek Dam evaluation is completed and will most likely occur later in 2007.

The Corps has an aggressive Dam Safety Program that includes constantly monitoring of all of the dams in the Cumberland River System. The Corps, in cooperation with State and local agencies, maintains emergency notification plans to be used in the event of a failure. The Corps will keep the public informed of the condition of these two dams, the progress of the rehabilitation work, and the results of the Risk-Based Evaluations throughout the project with news releases and websites. More information on these projects is available at the following websites: www.lrn.usace.army.mil/pao/issues/CENcommo and www.lrn.usace.army.mil/pao/issues/Wolcommo.